REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the very thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 1 and 3 are now present in this application. Claim 1 is independent. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended, and claims 4-21 are canceled without prejudice. No new matter is involved.

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claim Objection

Claim 1 is objected to for antecedent basis issues. This objection is respectfully traversed based on the amendments to claim 1, which adopt the changes proposed by the Examiner.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of these claim objections are respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

Claims 15 and 20 stand rejected under 35 USC §120 as failing to comply with the written description requirement. This rejection is respectfully traversed as moot because claims 15 and 20 have been canceled.

Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 15, 16, 18, 21/15, 21/17. 21/18 and 21/19 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph for being indefinite. This rejection is respectfully traversed as moot because

claims 15m 16, 18 and 21 have been canceled.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 5, 10, 11, 14 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 2,470,744 to Korn. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A complete discussion of the Examiner's rejection is set forth in the Office Action and is not being repeated here.

Initially, Applicants note that this rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of claims 5, 10, 11, 14 and 15.

Claim 1, as amended, recites a valve for controlling fluid flow in a main fluid flow path of a fluid system which has a source of fluid pressure, a load and a feedback valve, comprising: a primary valve body having an inlet and outlet port for fluid flow from a fluid pressure source and a flexible conduit which extends along a greater portion of an extended length path, wherein the flexible conduit also forms a valve seal closure member constrained to engage only a non-porous valve seat which extends along only a minor portion of the extended length of the extended length path in the closed position of the valve; a control port in the primary valve body for providing a control fluid acting to maintain the valve seal closure member in the closed position under a pressure differential as between that applied to one side of the valve seat closure member by said fluid flow through the inlet port acting to lift the valve seal closure member off the valve seat, and that applied on the other side of the valve seal closure member through said control port to close the valve; a restrictor connected to the pressure source to supply fluid flow to an input port of the feedback valve which has an output port vented to atmosphere and a

control port connected to the output port of the primary valve and the load, wherein a junction of a connection between the restrictor and the feedback valve forms a pressure divider which is connected to an outer pressure vessel at the control port of the primary valve; and wherein in response to an increase of load pressure, the pressure applied to the control port of the feedback valve is increased causing a reduction in fluid flow through the feedback valve so that pressure at a junction of the restrictor and input port of the feedback valve is increased and applied to the control port of the primary valve causing it to reduce flow passage and therefore, pressure, to restore an original imbalance and wherein the feedback valve has an inlet and outlet port for fluid flow from a fluid pressure source and a flexible conduit which extends along a greater portion of an extended length path, wherein the flexible conduit also forms a valve seal closure member constrained to engage only a non-porous valve seat which extends along only a minor portion of the extended length of the extended length path in the closed position of the valve, and is between the control port and the outlet port for varying the pressure of fluid at the control port in response to an imbalance in pressure at the outlet port thereby to stabilise the pressure or fluid flow at the outlet port.

Applicants respectfully submit that Korn clearly does not disclose the combination of features recited in claim 1. Further in this regard, Applicant notes that Examiner Rivell agreed in a telephone discussion dated October 6, 2009, that Korn does not disclose the claimed invention.

Accordingly, Korn does not disclose the invention recited in claims 1.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 11, 4, 14 and 21/14 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by

U.S. Patent 4,300,749 to Kreeley.

This rejection is traversed as moot because claims 4, 14 and 21 have been canceled.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection of claims 11, 4, 14 and 21/14 are respectfully requested.

Claims1, 3, 12 and 13 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by U.K. Patent 2 091 853 to Gordon. This rejection is respectively traversed.

The rejection is traversed as moot with respect to claims 12 and 13, which have been canceled.

Claim 1, as amended, recites a valve for controlling fluid flow in a main fluid flow path of a fluid system which has a source of fluid pressure, a load and a feedback valve, comprising: a primary valve body having an inlet and outlet port for fluid flow from a fluid pressure source and a flexible conduit which extends along a greater portion of an extended length path, wherein the flexible conduit also forms a valve seal closure member constrained to engage only a non-porous valve seat which extends along only a minor portion of the extended length of the extended length path in the closed position of the valve; a control port in the primary valve body for providing a control fluid acting to maintain the valve seal closure member in the closed position under a pressure differential as between that applied to one side of the valve seal closure member by said fluid flow through the inlet port acting to lift the valve seal closure member off the valve seat, and that applied on the other side of the valve seal closure member through said control port to close the valve; a restrictor connected to the pressure source to supply fluid flow to an input port of the feedback valve which has an output port vented to atmosphere and a control port

connected to the output port of the primary valve and the load, wherein a junction of a connection between the restrictor and the feedback valve forms a pressure divider which is connected to an outer pressure vessel at the control port of the primary valve; and wherein in response to an increase of load pressure, the pressure applied to the control port of the feedback valve is increased causing a reduction in fluid flow through the feedback valve so that pressure at a junction of the restrictor and input port of the feedback valve is increased and applied to the control port of the primary valve causing it to reduce flow passage and therefore, pressure, to restore an original imbalance, and wherein the feedback valve has an inlet and outlet port for fluid flow from a fluid pressure source and a flexible conduit which extends along a greater portion of an extended length path, wherein the flexible conduit also forms a valve seal closure member constrained to engage only a non-porous valve seat which extends along only a minor portion of the extended length of the extended length path in the closed position of the valve, and is between the control port and the outlet port for varying the pressure of fluid at the control port in response to an imbalance in pressure at the outlet port thereby to stabilise the pressure or fluid flow at the outlet port.

Applicants respectfully submit that Gordon clearly does not disclose the combinations of features recited in claim 1. Further in this regard, Applicant notes that Examiner Rivell agreed in a telephone discussion dated October 6, 2009, that Gordon does not disclose the claimed invention.

Accordingly, Gordon does not disclose the invention recited in claims 1 and 3.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 6, 17, 18, 20, 21/15, 21/17, 21/18 and 21/20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Korn in view of Kreeley. This rejection is respectfully traversed as moot because all of the claims under rejection have been canceled.

Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Korn in view of Kreeley and further in view of U.S. patent 5,136,898 to Hirose. This rejection is respectfully traversed as moot because claim 7 has been canceled.

Claims 16 and 21/16 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kreeley in view of Hirose. This rejection is respectfully traversed as moot because claims 16 and 21 have been canceled.

Claims 19 and 21/19 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Korn in view of Kreeley and further in view of U.K. Patent 2 091 853 to Gordon.

This rejection is respectfully traversed as moot because claims 19 and 21 have been canceled.

Claims 8 and 9 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Korn in view of U.S. patent 3,007,492 to Grimmer. This rejection is respectfully traversed as moot because claims 8 and 9 have been canceled.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone Robert J. Webster, Registration No. 46,472, at (703) 205-8000, in the Washington, D.C. area.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: OCT 28 2009

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By: _____
James T. Eller, Jr.
Reg. No.: 39,538
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
Telephone: (703)205-8000
Attorney for Applicants

#28380

JTE/RJW/jmc